

COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
FOR PATENT APPLICATION

Attorney Docket
Number: RPE-27

DECLARATION: As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

METHOD OF IDENTIFYING CHANGES IN BIOPOLYMERS

the specification of which:

☒ [X] is attached hereto.

☐ [] was filed on _____ as U.S. Application Number _____ or on _____
as PCT Application Number _____ and amended on _____ (if applicable.)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d) or § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or § 365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States listed below, and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate or PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

			Priority Claimed	
<u>198 06 303.2-52</u>	<u>Germany</u>	<u>16 February 1998</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [X]	<input type="checkbox"/> []
(Number)	(Country)	Filed (Day/Month/Year)	Yes	No
<u>198 50 661.9</u>	<u>Germany</u>	<u>03 November 1998</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [X]	<input type="checkbox"/> []
(Number)	(Country)	Filed (Day/Month/Year)	Yes	No

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

<u>Application Serial No.</u>	<u>(Filing Date)</u>	<u>(Application Serial No.)</u>	<u>(Filing Date)</u>
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I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of any United States application(s) or § 365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

<u>(Application Serial No.)</u>	<u>(Filing Date)</u>	<u>(Status - patented, pending, abandoned)</u>
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<u>(Application Serial No.)</u>	<u>(Filing Date)</u>	<u>(Status - patented, pending, abandoned)</u>
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POWER OF ATTORNEY: I hereby appoint the following attorneys and/or agents to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith: John B. Hardaway, III, Reg. No. 26,554; Katja Dunbar Peralta, Reg. No. 40,768; Sandra S. Snapp, Reg. No. 41,444; Oscar A. Towler, III, Reg. No. 33,803; Jacquelyn D. Austin, Reg. No. 43,478; J. Herbert O'Toole, Reg. No. 31,404; and George E. Darby, Reg. No. P-44,053.

SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO: John B. Hardaway, III, HARDAWAY LAW FIRM, P.A., P.O. Box 10107, Fed. Sta., Greenville, South Carolina, 29603-0107 TELEPHONE NUMBER: (864) 233-6700

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

FULL NAME OF FIRST INVENTOR (given name, family name) Ilse Chudoba

Complete Post Office Address Robert-Bosch-Straße 6, 68804 Altlussheim, Germany

City and Country of Residence Altlussheim, Germany Citizenship German

Inventor's Signature _____ Date _____

Hardaway Law Firm, P.A.
(Rev. 08/98)

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FULL NAME OF SECOND JOINT INVENTOR Thomas Loerch
Complete Post Office Address In der Holzrott 6, 68799 Reilingen, Germany
City and Country of Residence Reilingen, Germany Citizenship German

Inventor's Signature _____ Date _____

FULL NAME OF THIRD JOINT INVENTOR Andreas Plesch
Complete Post Office Address Schaelzigweg 78, 68723 Schwetzingen, Germany
City and Country of Residence Schwetzingen, Germany Citizenship German

Inventor's Signature _____ Date _____

68723-99456-0169

Applicants: Chudoba et al.
Application: _____
Filed: Herewith
Title: METHOD OF IDENTIFYING CHANGES IN BIOPOLYMERS

Attorney Docket No.: RPE-27

VERIFIED STATEMENT CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS
(37 CFR 1.9(f) and 1.27(b)) - SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN

I hereby declare that I am

- ☐ the owner of the small business concern identified below:
☐ an official of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf of the concern identified below:

NAME OF CONCERN: MetaSystems, Hard & Software GmbH

ADDRESS OF CONCERN: Robert-Bosch-Straße 6, 68804 Altlussheim, Germany

I hereby declare that the above identified small business concern qualifies as a small business concern as defined in 13 CFR 121.12, and reproduced in 37 CFR 1.9(d), for purposes of paying reduced fees to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, in that the number of employees of the concern, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. For purposes of this statement, (1) the number of employees of the business concern is the average over the previous fiscal year of the concern of the persons employed on a full-time, part-time or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year, and (2) concerns are affiliates of each other when either, directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or a third party or parties controls or has the power to control both.

I hereby declare that rights under contract or law have been conveyed to and remain with the small business concern identified above with regard to the invention described in:

- ☒ the specification filed herewith, with title as listed above.
☐ the application identified above.
☐ the patent identified above.

If the rights held by the above identified small business concern are not exclusive, then each individual, concern or organization having rights in the invention must file separate verified statements averring to their status as small entities (37 CFR 1.27), and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who would not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person made the invention, or by any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d), or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e). Each such person, concern or organization is:

- ☐ Listed below (full name and address).
☒ No such person, concern or organization exists.

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING: _____

TITLE OF PERSON SIGNING IF OTHER THAN OWNER: _____

ADDRESS OF PERSON SIGNING: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

Applicants: Chudoba et al.
Application: _____
Filed: Herewith
Title: METHOD OF IDENTIFYING CHANGES IN BIOPOLYMERS

Attorney Docket No.: RPE-27

VERIFIED STATEMENT CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS
(37 CFR 1.9(f) and 1.27(b)) - INDEPENDENT INVENTOR

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office described in:

☒ the specification filed herewith, title listed above

☐ the application identified above

☐ the patent identified above

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention to any person who would not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is

☒ Listed below (full name and address): *

**MetaSystems
Hard & Software GmbH
Robert-Bosch-Straße 6
68804 Altlussheim, Germany**

☐ No such person, concern or organization exists.

*Note: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to saying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.289b))

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Ilse Chudoba
NAME OF INVENTOR

Thomas Loerch
NAME OF INVENTOR

Andreas Plesch
NAME OF INVENTOR

Signature of Inventor

Signature of Inventor

Signature of Inventor

Date

Date

Date